

Expenditure on inter-connection of major rivers

1469. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any improvement in the proposal for connecting major rivers of the country;
- (b) if so, the latest details in this regard including the features of the feasibility studies conducted in this regard;
- (c) whether any time-frame has been fixed for the inter-connection of major rivers of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure likely to be incurred for the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has prepared Feasibility Report of 16 links out of 30 identified links under the National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development for transfer of water from surplus to deficit river basin areas. Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for one priority link viz, Ken-Betwa under Peninsular Component has been taken up by NWDA after signing of a tripartite agreement between the Government of India and concerned States of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh on 25.08.2005. The States of M.P. and Rajasthan have also agreed in principle for the preparation of DPR of Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link.

(c) and (d) The implementation of inter basin water transfer proposals depends on the consensus and cooperation of the concerned States.

Strengthening of canals of Chambal

†1470. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have any proposal with regard to strengthening and rejuvenating the canals of Chambal;
- (b) if so, the action initiated by Government in this regard;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether these proposals have been contemplated upon in the meeting of the Core Group; if so, the recommendations made by the Group; and

(d) by when the above said project will be accorded sanction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes Sir, the Government of Rajasthan had submitted proposals for correction of system deficiencies of 36 distribution systems of Chambal Project.

(b) and (c) The total estimated cost and culturable command area covered by these systems were Rs. 56.16 crore and 1.42 lakh hectare respectively. The proposals were considered by the Core Group of Ministry of Water Resources for approval of CAD proposals, in its 13th meeting held on 23rd August, 2006.

(d) The State Government officials were advised by the Core Group to give priority to those distributaries where Command Area Development (CAD) works have already been completed. The Core Group also felt that in the absence of rehabilitation of the main and branch canals, correction of deficiencies in the distributaries only may not serve useful purpose and therefore, the distributaries on the head of which full supply discharge is assured should only be taken up for correction. It further observed that only those minors/distributaries shall be considered where WUAs have been formed under the participation of Farmers in the Management of Irrigation Systems Act, 2002 of Rajasthan and not under Cooperative Societies Act. The State Government was also advised to give assurance that the systems shall be handed over to the WUAs elected under the above mentioned Act. The State Government was advised to send a list of proposals on those distributaries which fulfil the above conditions.

The clearance of the project will depend upon the promptness with which the State Government replies to the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies.

Maintenance of unused tanks

1471. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state: